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Approved For Release 2004/05/05 : CIA-RDP75B00159R000200090011-9

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IDEA 0208-70

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15 September 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Special Activities

SUBJECT : Redesignation of U-2

1. The following paragraphs list the Pros and Cons for consideration in redesignation of the U-2 aircraft.

2. Pro (Favorable Factors)

a. A new designation would be more diplomatically palatable in as much as the U-2 incident in 1960 (Gary Powers) and its association with CIA still causes concern in some areas of the world.

b. A new name with a "Y" designation would be a plausible explanation for world-wide missions under cover of environmental testing

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3. Con (Factors Against)

a. Change in designation may give credence to a new, improved vehicle and arouse undue interest by technical intelligence people on the red side of the fence.

b. Communist countries may use the change for propaganda purposes by noting it is the same old aircraft but we are changing the name to try to dupe the world into thinking it is something else.

c. It is likely that the world press would identify the aircraft as a "spy plane" in spite of the name change. Any reconnaissance aircraft is thus tagged.

d. A name change could suggest that money was being spent for development of a new weapons system without public knowledge.

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e. A name change could imply deception on the part of the U. S. if the press chose to publicize the fact that the aircraft had previously been called the U-2.

f. A great deal of money and effort would be expended in changing manuals, tech orders, etc.

4. For reasons in paragraph 3 above, recommend that no change in designation of the U-2 be effected at this time.

5. If redesignation is considered essential, recommend using YR-7. The "Y" for experimental, the "R" for reconnaissance, and the "7" or "any other number" desired.

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Deputy for Operations, OSA

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# OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP

25X1

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS		
1	DD/SA	[Redacted]	
2	DSA		
3	Let's file this for future use -		
4	not appropriate while we are		
5	publicly deployed or when UZR capability		
6	is still unknown as different from UZC. R		
	ACTION	DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
	APPROVAL	DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
	COMMENT	FILE	RETURN
	CONCURRENCE	INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

Plz note addition of  
 PP 5 on accomplished  
 page 2

25X1

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM	NAME	ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
			6 Oct 70

TRANSMITTAL SLIP		DATE
TO: DDISA		9/18
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	
REMARKS:		
D/ORS		
25X1		
25X1		
FROM: DISA		
ROOM NO.	BUILDING	EXTENSION

FORM NO. 241  
1 FEB 55

REPLACES FORM 36-8  
WHICH MAY BE USED.

(47)

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OFFICIAL ROUTING SLIP 25X1

TO	NAME AND ADDRESS	DATE	INITIALS
1	DD/SA		
2	D/SA		
3	I agree but let's look into		
4	what we should call it if we		
5	changed it. The live AF165 is looking		
6	into this at this time. R		
ACTION		DIRECT REPLY	PREPARE REPLY
APPROVAL		DISPATCH	RECOMMENDATION
COMMENT		FILE	RETURN
CONCURRENCE		INFORMATION	SIGNATURE

Remarks:

At this point I believe  
the Com here is although  
I think it never should  
have started out with  
a "U" along with it.

FOLD HERE TO RETURN TO SENDER

FROM: NAME, ADDRESS AND PHONE NO.	DATE
D/PS	25X1